

# THE CUBAN ARMIES.

ASSURANCE OF CO-OPERATION  
FROM GENERAL GARCIA.

TROOPS ARE IN GOOD SPIRITS.

Communication Between Garcia and Gomez Maintained in All. There Are 20,000 to 25,000 Cuban Insurgents in the Field.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Secretary Alger and General Miles conferred yesterday with two officers from the staff of General Garcia, General Enrique Collazo, and Lieutenant Colonel Charles Hernandez, who came direct from Garcia's headquarters, bearing credentials from him, to effect a plan of co-operation with the American forces. They accompanied Lieutenant Rowan, of the United States army, on his return from Garcia's camp, and shared with him the dangers of the two days' voyage in an open boat from the north coast of Cuba, until picked up by a small sloop, which carried them to Nassau. They reported first to the Cuban delegation here, and Secretary Quesada was careful to keep their presence secret until General Miles had made the fact known. This relieved them from further secrecy, and to-day General Collazo and Colonel Hernandez gave an interesting account of General Garcia's forces and surroundings, and the general equipment of the Cuban army.

Colonel Hernandez says Garcia has his headquarters at Bayamo, one of the large towns in the central part of the island. It was surrounded by the Spanish forces a few weeks ago, after Garcia and his troops had maintained a long siege. In all about 4,000 men are quartered there. They are well armed, with Remingtons and Mausers, captured from the Spaniards. Most of them have machetes, but only the officers carry other small arms. The cavalry have small horses, much like the Indian mustangs, hardy and reliable. Mules are used for pack purposes.

NO COMMISSARY. Colonel Hernandez says that the commissary and quartermaster's department is unknown in the sense used by the army of the United States. The companies not fully armed are organized as "predios." The duty of the "predios" is to bring food, supplies, and other necessities from Puerto Principe, and vegetables, which are grown in the woods. The system works perfectly, Colonel Hernandez says, and the troops are kept well fed and in good spirits. There are no dress parades and none of the other things usually seen in the United States army. The men make long daily marches.

The Cuban general says the arrival of Lieutenant Rowan aroused the greatest enthusiasm throughout the Cuban camp. There was no notice of his coming, and the first seen of Lieutenant Rowan was as he galloped up Commercial street, followed by the Cuban guides who had accompanied him from Florida. He was warmly greeted by General Garcia, and the two held a three hours conference. It was decided that Lieutenant Rowan should return that afternoon, and General Garcia assigned General Collazo and Colonel Hernandez, with three guides, to accompany him. He had come from the south shore, but the party went out northward. They expected to secure a large sailboat, but the best thing available was an open yawl with a cubic capacity of only 35 feet. Sails were improvised by the officers. The first night out was stormy, but the party went on, barely kept afloat, but after that the weather improved. The first morning out the party saw twelve American warships of Admiral Sampson's fleet, but they made no attempt to board the ships. The next day they were met by a sloop off Bahama Key, and carried to Nassau, coming thence to Washington.

COMMUNICATION WITH GOMEZ. Colonel Hernandez says communication is maintained with General Gomez and with points along the coast. From these he has a general idea of the Cuban forces outside of those with General Garcia at Bayamo. He estimates that there are 12,000 men, all of them well armed, of the trocha, and constituting the force in the eastern division of the island under General Garcia. These include the 3,000 at Bayamo, the others being scattered at various points. He estimates General Gomez's immediate command at about 3,000 men, with 6,000 scattered at various points. In all, there are, according to the estimates of General Collazo and Colonel Hernandez, about 20,000 to 25,000 troops actually in the field. It is understood that the purpose of the present visit of Garcia's officers is to give the general's assurance to the authorities here of his desire to give every possible co-operation to the American movements. Similar assurances have been given by General Garcia to the Cuban government by Secretary Quesada. The Cuban officers have made a good impression here, and the authorities were agreeably surprised to find them men of ability and widely bearing, speaking English well, and they will remain some days longer, and then return to General Garcia's camp.

## PACIFIC COAST AUXILIARY NAVY.

Orders Issued to Man Four of the Reserve Fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27.—Within a few hours after orders were received to man the Inroquois, Vigilant, Active, and Mohican from the Naval Reserve, Adjutant-General Barrett had sent to Admiral Miller a list of officers chosen for each of the vessels which will be passed upon by the naval authorities. The petty officers and enlisted men for the Active and the Vigilant can be furnished to-day, Adjutant-General Barrett says, and the fifty men for the Mohican are now subject to orders. Captain Louis Turner, commanding the naval battalion, has been instructed to act on instructions from the Admiral, who has informed that the State would furnish any uniforms and equipments it had upon request from the government. Captain Thompson, United States army, in charge of the signal branch of the Marine Expedition, has requested the Adjutant-General to submit the names of the fifty men for duty in Manila. Thirty are to be telegraph operators.

## THE RAILROAD BLAMED.

Seizure of Employees Caused Barbee's Death, Says Coroner's Jury.

SAVANNAH, GA., May 27.—The Coroner's jury which has been investigating the death of Private William M. Barbee, of Company I, First North Carolina Volunteers, who was killed in a collision on the Florida Central and Peninsula railroad near Savannah, last Monday, returned a verdict last night that the accident was caused by the negligence of the employees of the railroad and to the bad condition of the rolling-stock of the freight train which ran into the military train.

## MENDONCA'S ADDRESS APPROVED.

Mexico and Central America Approve American Diplomat Idea.

CITY OF MEXICO, May 27.—The published report of the Brazilian Minister Mendonca's farewell address to President McKinley, in which he advocated that an American diplomat should regulate the international relations of this hemisphere, excited much favorable comment here, and also in Central America. It is believed that Mendonca's speech was prompted, not merely by his well-known admiration for the United States and the

American people, but by his intimate knowledge of the inner aspirations of the latter.

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